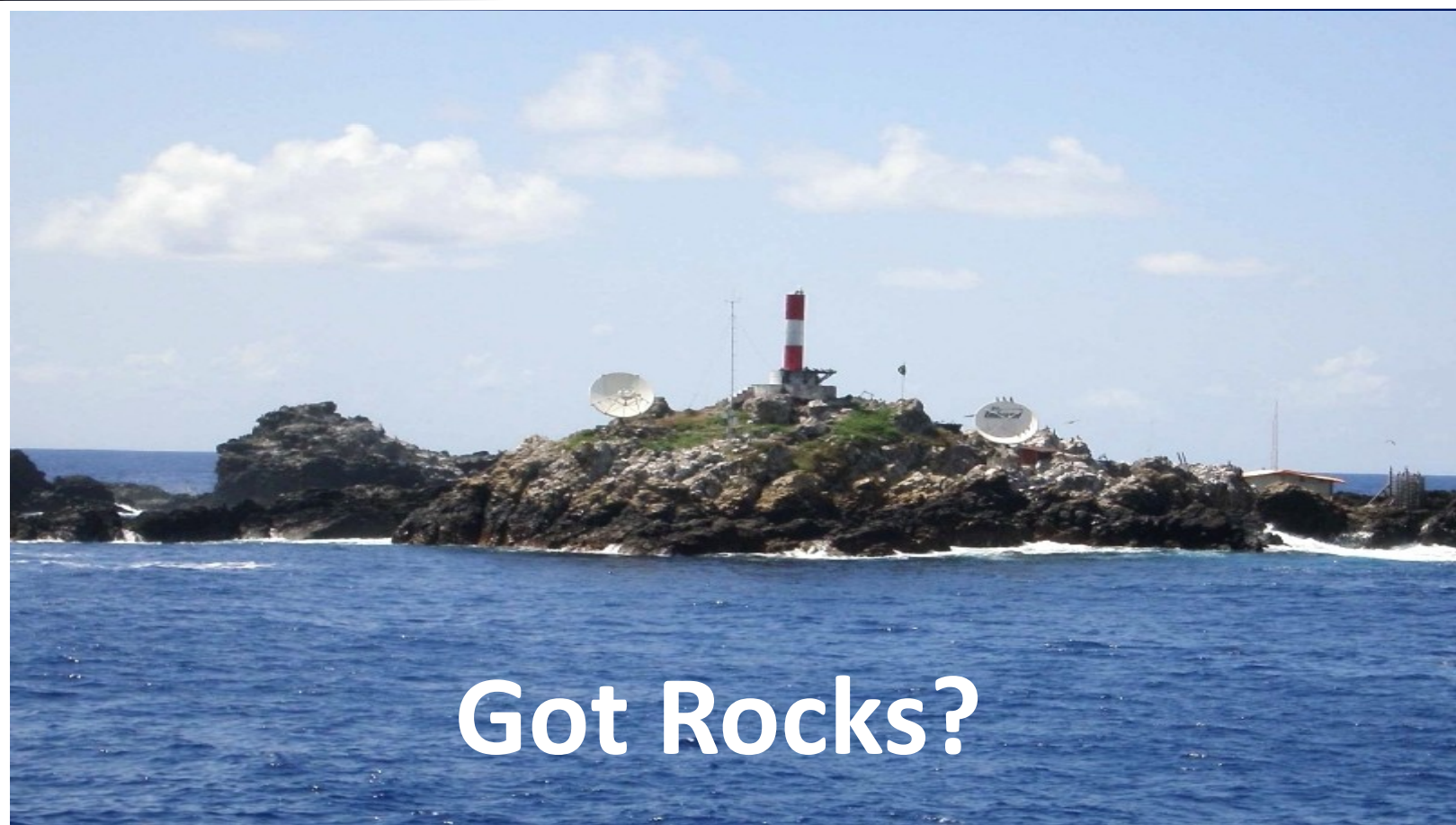


San Diego DX Club Bulletin



May 2012



Got Rocks?

APRIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2012

AT THE SIZZLER STEAK HOUSE

3755 MURPHY CANYON ROAD, SUITE S

SAN DIEGO, CA 92123

SOCIAL HOUR: 5:00 PM DINNER: 5:30 PM

MEETING: 6:30 PM

Club member Bud Semon, N7CW will present

"EL2A 2011 - Team Fiberglass"

A Word from the Prez

2

Secretary and
Treasurer's Reports

3

SDDXC Top 10

3

Cover Story

4

Contest Calendar

5



President:

John Barcroft, K6AM

(858) 587-8061

k6am@arrl.net

Vice President:

John Graf, WA6L

jmggraf@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

Ellen Utschig, N6UWW

(760) 721-2927

elenalaloca@cox.net

Past President:

Gayle Olson, K6GO

(858) 673-9201

k6go@arrl.net

Board of Directors:

Harry Hodges, W6YOO

(760) 743-4212

w6yoo@cox.net

Bob Grimmick, N6OX

(949) 573-1070

n6ox@yahoo.com

Les Nuhn, NN6K

(619) 467-4510

rttyman@aol.com

Ladder:

John Barcroft, K6AM

k6am@arrl.net

Webmaster:

Arnie Lewin, W7BIA

Historian:

Glenn Rattmann, K6NA

(760) 749-3936

k6na@cts.com

Bulletin Editor:

Bob Farkaly, K9RHY

(858) 674-4618

rfarkaly@san.rr.com

A Word from the Prez . . .

John Barcroft, K6AM



The Visalia convention should be wrapping up as you get this. Hope you all had a great time. Lotsa fun and interesting stuff again this year with the CW pileup contest, as well as great programs including Southern Sudan. We did the "What's My Call" game on Sunday morning followed by K4UEE's presentation on the Malpelo expedition. There were plenty of great prizes and we all got caught up with old friends. Maybe we can get you a few pictures for next time. My thanks to all the SDDXC volunteers who helped make it happen.

The bands have been pretty poor lately, but there are still a few opportunities to work a new one here and there. The 9M0 boys on Spratley have been generally difficult to hear but workable on at least one band. Let's hope things pick up in time for the WPX contest in May.

The Sweepstakes results are out. Kudos to our local SDG section winning members. In the SSB low power category WN6K came in first, followed by K6ZH and NN3V. In the new low power multi-op category, N6KI's team Bonsall came in first in the division and # 6 US/VE. And in multi-op high power the W6YI team finished first overall US/VE for the fifth straight year.

Over on the CW single op side, N6NC took the unlimited category, with WN6K winning low power, and K6NA high power. In the multi-op category, N6KI won for the SW division in low power coming in second overall, and team W6YI cinched their sixth overall US/VE win in high power.

Elections are coming up in June. Your nominating committee is putting together a slate of candidates. We will also take nominations from the floor at next month's meeting.

73, John

DX Is!!

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

Secretary and Treasurer's Reports



San Diego DX Club
March 28, 2012
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President John Barcroft, K6AM, at 6:32pm. Tom Myrick, N6JOJ, gave a report from SANDARC (Fire Dept radio request withdrawn, no ham booth at 2012 Del Mar Fair). K6AM reviewed the Top Ten Lists for 30 and 15 Meters. There was no new business.

SDDXC Rookie of the Year certificate was presented to Wild Bill Wiederhold, WB6BFG (congrats on the three-peat!)

SDDXC Big Gun certificates were announced for N6CW, KOXB, W6BK, K9RHY. SDDXC Top Gun certificates were announced for W6KH, K6GAK, NN6R, W6YI and NN6K.

A Roundtable discussion followed. A Board Meeting was held after the General Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Statement Balance 29-February 2012 \$3,661.20

Additions \$170.00

Branch deposit (Dues payments)

Subtractions \$15.00

(Check #551 Lounsbery Ferguson Altona & Peak LLC - Lobbyist Registration)

Statement Balance 30-March, 2012 \$4,654.90

Outstanding checks \$17.23

(WB6BFG March meeting speaker's dinner)

Adjusted Balance \$4,637.67

Respectfully submitted,

73, Ellen

The SDDXC Top 10 John, K6AM



TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 30 METERS

4/12	4/11	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	40	?	?	331	-
2.	2.	K6AM	40	317	322	329	+3
3.	3.	N6ND	40	253	255	326	+2
4.	5.	N7CW	40	266	266	300	+28
5.	6.	N6CW	37	?	215	272	+4
6.	7.	K6XT	39	211	211	261	-
7.	9.	K6ZH	36	223	227	256	+12
8.	-	W6YI	38	176	178	233	NEW
9.	-	KOXB	40	203	205	225	NEW
10.	10.	W6YOO	33	220	222	222	+11

TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 15 METERS

4/12	4/11	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	N6ND	40	309	321	345	+1
2.	2.	K6AM	40	331	339	343	+3
3.	3.	N6CW	40	?	331	338	+2
4.	5.	N7CW	40	304	304	322	+9
5.	7.	W6YI	40	305	313	320	+10
6.	6.	W6YOO	40	314	318	318	+7
7.	8.	KOXB	40	303	309	316	+7
8.	10	K6ZH	40	284	289	305	+8
9.	-	K6XT	40	251	258	291	NEW
10	-	WN6K	40	245	253	290	NEW

Almost everyone in the top 10 on both of this month's bands sent in a report and really stirred the pot. The leaders remain in place but most everyone showed some nice gains. The gap behind first place W6YA is closing on 30. Watch out Jim! Rick, N6ND holds on to his lead on 15 meters, which has sprung back to life with some good openings worldwide. It only gets better, folks. Remember to update your records to show MV Island as a deleted country, and get those updates in so we can be as accurate as possible.

Each month, we will publish top ten lists for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, the other WARC bands, 160 and RTTY. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

73, John



Cover Story and Editor's Rambling

Bob Farkaly, K9RHY

Got Rocks?

The Archipelago of Ilhas Peter and São Paulo (ASPSP) are rocky islands situated on the Dorsal Atlantic Meso (00° 55.01' 20,76 N and 029° ' W, about 1,100 km from the city of Christmas - RN and 520 km from the Archipelago of Fernando De Noronha (PYOF)). ASPAP is the point of Brazil closest to Africa, being approximately 1,820 km to Guinéa Bissau. The Rocks occupy about 17,000 m² with a maximum elevation of 18 m above sea level.

St. Peter and St. Paul Rocks, PY0S, is #16 on DX Magazine's Most Wanted list. Club Log suggests PY0S is #15 worldwide, but up at #3 in JA.

The Rocks have been visited by DXpeditioners a number of times, including the ZY0SA/ZY0SB operation in February 1987, ZV0SB in March 1999, PW0S in February 2001 and others. My first recollection of an "operation" there was described as follows:

According to a special edition of "The West Coast DX Bulletin", Don Miller, W9WNV, admitted that the claimed August 1966 operation using the call PY0XA claiming to have been from St. Peter and Paul Rocks, actually took place from a boat some 1,800 miles northwest of the Rocks and within sight of the coast of Venezuela and one of the Caribbean Islands (presumably Trinidad).

Here's the bad news:

Following an announcement on March 6, 2012, all future visits by radio amateurs (DXpeditions) are now forbidden to St. Peter and St. Paul rocks by order of the Brazilian Government.

According to the Brazilian government, DXpeditions "do not conform to the continuing program of maintenance, conservation, management and the utilization of natural resources of the archipelago".

When I read this, I panicked. I was short a QSL card for a CW contact with the Rocks! Since I had credit for all current DXCC entities except P5 and the Rocks, my heart sank when I thought there would be no future operations and no further chance for me to confirm the Rocks on CW. Disaster!

A few days later, I read the following on the DX World web site:

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL ROCKS LOGS (Update)

Cesar, PY2YP, continues to obtain logs for St. Peter & St. Paul Rocks DXpeditions from the operators and uploads them into LoTW. He mentions this week that thanks to Joaquim, PS7JN (now PS8JN), he was able to receive the following logs:

ZY0SAT - Mar. 31st-Apr. 14th, 2001
ZY0SAT - Feb. 24th-Mar. 11th, 2002
ZW0S - Apr. 6-18th, 2003
ZW0S - Sep. 2-17th, 2003

ZW0S - Dec. 3-18th, 2003
PS0S/PS7JN - Nov. 25th-Dec. 10th, 2004
PS0S/PS7JN - Sep. 7-22nd, 2005
PS0S/PS7JN - Jan. 20th-Feb. 2nd, 2004

The logs are in spreadsheet and will take some time to convert them to ADIF format. He hopes to upload the logs to the LoTW later this week. In addition, he also received paper logs from 1982 and 1991 operations. The logs are large and will take a lot of time to type. Watch the <http://www.py2yp.com> Web page for updates.

LAST MINUTE UPDATE: Cesar reported on April 5th, "The ZY0SAT, ZW0S and PY0S/PS7JN logs are now in the LoTW. Log search is available at www.py2yp.com/spsprocks

I kicked myself for screwing this up. No more operations and K9RHY with no QSL card! Then I had a thought. What if I had actually snagged a CW QSO with the Rocks during an earlied operation but had just had a memory (or other) lapse aand not gotten the card? Was there a chance?

Using "dx4win", I did a search for contacts with the Rocks. I was elated to see that I did, indeed, have a CW QSO with PY0S. In fact, I had two QSOs! But elation turned to despair when I saw that the operation I had worked was not one of the operations for which Cesar, PY2YP, had the logs.

But seeing a possible opening, I fired off an email to Cesar asking for help. I also turned to an old friend, Bill, W9VA, who also holds a PY call and has operated from PY0F a number of times. What a pleasant surprise to receive an email from Cesar in response telling me that he thought Ron, PY1BVY (one of the ZY0SB operators) still had the logs!

So I fired off an immediate email to Ron asking for help, sending him my QSO data. I was delighted when he responded telling me that both my CW QSOs were "in the log" and he would be happy to confirm them. Ron told me to make sure my letter to him was sent registered. My QSL card with a SAE and \$5 to cover the cost of return postage went out the next morning. But then I started to get nervous and decided to send a backup QSL via Express Mail.

Do you know that it costs \$28 (US) to send an Express Mail package from San Diego to Brazil? I really wanted that card!

A week later, I received an email from Ron telling me he had received my QSL and had sent me the one I was looking for via registered mail. I waited for the postman every day after that. Since his letter had not shown up within a week, we both started to get nervous, but I decided to wait one more day.

Last Friday, the USPS delivered a registered letter to me from Brazil with the prized ZY0SB CW QSL. Ron also emailed me graciously volunteering to help out anyone else looking for a ZY0SA or ZY0SB card.

John, please remove MV from my SDDXC standings and add PY0S on CW. It was a great way to start the weekend. Now if I could just find a good P5 card.

DX PEDIATION
St Peter & St Paul's Rocks
ZY0SA and B

KEMPNER

CWRJ
AM 001
AGAIN I
FOUNDATION
1720

☐ SWL: ☐ PY1ZT ☐ PYOSA - Paul
☒ TO RADIO: **K9RHY** PY1BVY ☒ PYOSB - Ron
Box 1502, 24000 Niterói - RJ - Brazil

DAY	UTC	MHz	RS.T	2 WAY	cfm/wkd
27	23:52	7	599	CW	
28	19:25	14	599	CW	2nd Card.

73' + pleasure
Lon

73, Bob

DX Is!!

Upcoming Event

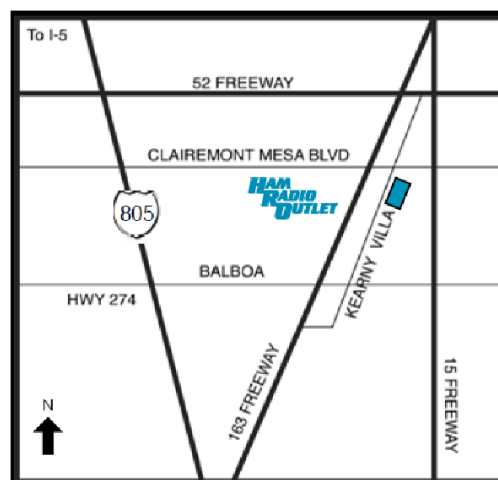
Get There!

Dayton Hamvention®

Dayton, Ohio May 18-20, 2012



May 2012 DX Contests				
Contest	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
CQ-M International DX Contest	12-May	1200Z	13-May	1159Z
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	26-May	0000Z	27-May	2359Z



SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
 5375 Kearny Villa Rd. #113
 Hwy. 163 & Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
 (858) 560-4900
 (800) 854-6046
 24 Hour FAX (858) 560-1705
 Email: sandiego@hamradio.com

Jose XE2SJB
 Jerry N5MCJ
 Ed KB5FNX